

Mayor Charles "Skip" Lee called a meeting of the Sterling City Council to order at 6:30 pm on Monday, August 4, 2014. Roll call. Present: Aldermen Barry Cox, Retha Elston, Joe Martin, Lou Sotelo, and John Stauter. Absent: Chris Schuchard.

Also present were City Manager Scott Shumard, City Management Intern Kevin Smith, Finance Director Cindy Von Holten, Code Enforcement Officer Amanda Schmidt, Fire Chief Gary Cook, Police Chief Ron Potthoff, and City Clerk Marie Rombouts.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mary Carlson, 2004 15th Avenue, commented on the pond at Thomas Park. Carlson remembers when the Township widened 16th Avenue. She believes that affected the pond and thinks the Township should share in the costs to dredge the pond.

Alderman Cox made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- A) City Council Minutes of July 21, 2014
- B) Bills and Payroll totaling \$972,925.57
- C) Plan Commission minutes from June 19, 2014
- D) **Resolution #R2014-08-09** to close Fourth Street for Taste of Fiesta Activities at Grandon Civic Center on Saturday, September 6 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm
- E) Petition to allow the Sterling-Rock Falls Jaycees to hold a bucket brigade fundraiser on Saturday, August 16 from 8:00 am to 12:00 noon at the intersections of Second Street/Second Avenue, Third Street/First Avenue, Fourth Street/Locust, and Fourth Street/Second Avenue
- F) **Resolution #R2014-08-10** to close streets for Bridge the Community Race and Fiesta Day Parade on Saturday, September 13 from 8:00 am to 2:30 pm
- G) Refer to Plan Commission a petition from Northland Mall 2000 LLC to amend the sign code

The motion was seconded by Alderman Elston. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Cox, Elston, Martin, Sotelo, and Stauter. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Chief Potthoff introduced Police Officer Edward Deets, from Dixon. Chief Potthoff announced that upon the retirement of Bob Allen a few months ago and Doug Fargher last week, the Fire-Police Commission promoted Steve Hubbard to Lieutenant and Alex Chavira and JD Sanders to Sergeant positions.

Alderman Elston made a motion to declare August 5, 2014 as National Night Out; seconded by Alderman Martin. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Cox, Elston, Martin, Sotelo, and Stauter. Nays – None. Motion carried. Mayor Lee read the proclamation into the record. Mayor Lee encouraged everyone to attend the National Night Out celebrations

in Lincoln, Propheter, Kilgour, Wallace, and Douglas Parks in Sterling, as well as Veteran's Park in Rock Falls. The event promotes people getting to know their neighbors and finding out what's going on in their neighborhoods.

Alderman Stauter made a motion to enforce the Amusements & Entertainments Ordinance as written in regard to the petition from Fun Jump asking for exclusion from the ordinance; seconded by Alderman Martin.

Alderman Cox stated that the Fire Department inspects the business and does not understand why Fun Jump pays these fees. Cox stated that the City has waived fees before. Alderman Stauter stated that it's not fair to waive fees for one business and open the door for more requests. Manager Shumard suggested that instead of waiving fees and setting a precedent that the Council look at changing the code. Mayor Lee asked why staff would prefer the \$100 fee be waived versus the per machine fee. Clerk Rombouts explained the fee per machine lets us know how many machines are at each location. The \$100 arcade fee is applied if there are more than three machines at one location.

Voting to enforce the code and not waive fees for Fun Jump: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Sotelo, and Stauter. Nays – Alderman Cox. Motion carried to not waive fees.

Clerk Rombouts announced that petitions for Mayor and the four Ward Alderman can be circulated on August 26, 2014 and the filing period will be November 17 – 24, 2014.

Manager Shumard announced that Fifth Avenue reconstruction is 95% complete. He stated that Intern Smith should have a survey ready before the last concert and movie for participants to rank the priorities of repairs and upgrades at Grandon Civic Center. Manager Shumard stated that Sears has been in contact with the City regarding the K-Mart property.

Mayor Lee announced that a few Council members and staff have participated in a webinar on the paperless agenda packets. BoardDocs was the preferred program.

Manager Shumard believes the Council would appreciate the easy navigation and suggested that we present a webinar at 6:00 pm before the next meeting. Prices were comparable for both programs but BoardDocs provides on-site training and storage of all data.

Alderman Stauter stated that he had a great time at the concert and was proud to represent the City while presenting a "Key to City" for the guest conductor.

Alderman Elston announced the last movie, "Willie Wonka and the Chocolate Factory", will be Thursday evening at dusk. She was also concerned about skateboarders

running over the benches at Grandon. Chief Potthoff stated police officers generally chase the skateboards away from the park.

Alderman Sotelo could not make any promises if he could attend the National Night Out. He has soccer practice and will be keeping those kids occupied.

Mayor Lee thanked Alderman Stauter for filling in at the concert by presenting a "Key to the City" to the guest conductor. He noted this has been a very well received tradition. Mayor Lee also thanked Joe Martin for presiding over the last Council meeting. Mayor Lee recognized Bob Allen and Doug Fargher for their many years of service and stated they would be hard to replace. Mayor Lee mentioned Joan Bierman had passed away. Joan had served on the Library Board for many years.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Marie Rombouts
City Clerk